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TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Technical cooperation in statistics

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report summarizes the technical cooperation programmes in statistics of organizations of the United Nations system and several multilateral organizations during the period 1989-1992. It updates the previous report on the subject (E/CN.3/1991/25), which covered the period 1987-1990.

The report reviews the impact of General Assembly resolution 44/211 and the new agency support cost arrangements on the provision of technical cooperation in statistics (paras. 3-34). It contains information on the main components of technical cooperation programmes of the United Nations system (paras. 35-103). Information is presented on technical cooperation activities of United Nations Headquarters and the regional commissions (paras. 37-70), and of the specialized agencies (paras. 71-104). Information supplied by the European Community and the International Statistical Institute is summarized (paras. 105-111). Points for discussion by the Statistical Commission are also included (para. 112).

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INTRODUCTION

1. At its twenty-sixth session, the Statistical Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, at its twenty-seventh session, a report on technical cooperation in statistics, including information on the impact of General Assembly resolution 44/211 and the new agency support cost arrangements on the provision of technical cooperation in statistics. 1/

2. The information in this report and its annex was supplied by the organizations responding to a questionnaire from the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat. There was considerable difficulty in standardizing the estimates provided by the various organizations. In many cases, it was difficult for organizations to identify and measure separately technical cooperation activities and regular work programme activities. In view of the problem of compatibility, no attempt was made to aggregate the expenditures of different agencies.

I. IMPACT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 44/211 AND THE NEW AGENCY SUPPORT COST ARRANGEMENTS ON THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN STATISTICS

3. In resolution 44/211, the General Assembly emphasized the importance of national execution of projects and the attendant need for a programme approach, for decentralization and delegation of authority in the United Nations system to the country level, and for regular and timely provision of technical advice and back-stopping by agencies at the country level. The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), at its thirty-eighth session, in 1991, adopted comprehensive legislation on successor arrangements for agency support costs. This is a significant decision with long-term implications for the operational activities of the United Nations system.

United Nations Development Programme

4. The successor arrangements for agency support costs, approved by the Governing Council of UNDP, form part of a broader policy package which includes new initiatives relating to national execution and the programme approach, and a renewed emphasis on human development and national capacity-building in development activities. These mutually supportive components of the policy framework offer considerable opportunity to achieve increased effectiveness and relevance in UNDP-financed programmes and projects.

5. The new support cost arrangements went into effect on 1 January 1992, replacing a system which had been in existence in its essential elements for over two decades. The objectives of the new arrangements are:

(a) Enhancement of the tripartite relationship;

(b) Strengthening the technical focus and support capacities of agencies;

(c) Provision of incentives for national execution;

(d) Encouragement to greater openness in accessing implementation services;

(e) Promotion of coherence and coordination in operational activities.

6. The following features characterize the new regime:

A separation between technical support services (TSS) and administrative and operational services (AOS);

Two distinct types of technical support services: at the programme level (TSS-1) and at the project level (TSS-2). The former is a new facility, not present in the old regime.

TSS-1

7. The facility for technical services at the programme level has been established to contribute to the enhancement of agency technical support for developing countries and should be considered additional and complementary to similar activities carried out under agencies' regular programmes.

TSS-2

8. This facility is entrusted to UNDP to obtain technical support services from agencies in their respective areas of competence. These resources will be used primarily to provide technical support during project implementation, that is, technical monitoring and back-stopping. Use of TSS-2 resources should be provided taking into account the availability of other sources of funds including agencies' own regular budgets.

Administrative and operational services

9. AOS refers to services related to the procurement and delivery of project inputs. UNDP will reimburse agencies for these services. Differential rates of reimbursement will apply depending on the individual services rendered (personnel, subcontracts, training and equipment).

10. The new arrangements will apply to all agencies. However, within these successor arrangements, a new system of reimbursement of support costs (new regime) will apply only to the following five large entities of the United Nations system: the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD) of the United Nations Secretariat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The old regime will continue to apply for all other agencies except the UNDP Office for

Project Services (OPS) and the World Bank Group, which will be governed by a modified new regime. All projects approved before 1 January 1992 continue to be subject to the old regime for the duration of their activities.

United Nations Population Fund

11. During the 1980s and until recently, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provided technical support to countries largely through a network of regional advisers based in agency regional offices, interregional advisers and technical officers based at agency headquarters, and various long- and short-term experts provided through individual projects, whether executed by Governments, agencies, UNFPA or non-governmental organizations. This arrangement helped UNFPA to respond flexibly to requests for assistance received from all regions and countries. It also helped to promote awareness and provide the services, data and expertise necessary to institutionalize the integration of population facets into development planning and the design and implementation of population policies.

12. UNFPA was guided by General Assembly resolution 44/211 in its initial consideration of successor arrangements. UNFPA also examined questions of accountability, which have contributed to its design of new arrangements for the provision of technical support services and agency support costs. The objectives of the new arrangements for technical support services are: (a) to provide coordinated, effective and timely support for population programmes and policies; (b) to utilize and maximize national and regional capacities in the area of population activities; (c) to utilize the most appropriate and competitive sources of technical assistance; (d) to bring technical services and advice much closer to field-level activities; (e) to facilitate the further assumption by Governments of the management of programmes and projects; and (f) to continue the practice of cost-sharing between UNFPA and agencies participating in the new successor arrangements.

13. Taking into account these objectives, UNFPA is supporting national technical assistance requirements at three levels:

(a) At the national level, through a greater reliance on local expertise and institutions;

(b) At the regional and subregional levels, through use of technical personnel in technical support teams composed of experts from various population disciplines;

(c) At the headquarters and regional office levels of the specialized agencies and the United Nations, through support for technical personnel.

14. The creation of technical support teams backed up by specialized services at headquarters is designed to provide both greater expertise and increased flexibility. This will ensure more rapid and pertinent responses to country needs. The new arrangement should also permit greater linkages across

sectors, promoting cross-fertilization and coordination. The composition of the teams varies, depending on the needs of the countries in each region. The teams include experts from the United Nations, the specialized agencies and regional institutions, and a team leader appointed by UNFPA. The teams will operate out of the following locations: in Africa - Dakar, Harare and Addis Ababa; in the Arab States - Amman; in Asia and the Pacific - Bangkok, Kathmandu and Suva; and in Latin America and the Caribbean - Santiago. The size, composition and location of the teams have been established on the basis of previous experience with regional advisory services, the current and anticipated number of projects that would require back-stopping, available national capacities in the substantive sectors and emerging population and development trends.

15. The primary purpose of technical support services (TSS) at agency headquarters is to strengthen the agency's substantive capacity in the field of population as well as its ability to provide timely and high-quality support services both to the technical support teams and when required to the countries themselves. The functions of the TSS specialists include:

(a) To play an advocacy role in population within the mandate of the agency and to integrate population variables into the regular work of the agency;

(b) To undertake sector analysis and identify programme needs;

(c) To participate in country programme/sector reviews;

(d) To provide technical support teams with information, technical support, technical input in incorporation of demographic variables and issues in demographic planning, inputs from the agency's technical cooperation programme, training seminars and support in organizing and conducting intercountry training programmes;

(e) To provide technical support services of a specialized nature, on a selective basis, at the country level;

(f) To provide feedback on the needs and priorities for research and training under the intercountry programme;

(g) To disseminate the outputs of intercountry programmes for provision of technical support to teams and countries;

(h) To assist in the technical back-stopping of country projects, as required.

16. UNFPA has established an Inter-Agency Task Force to monitor the performance of the new technical support services arrangements, provide advice with a view to improving tne quality and timeliness of technical support to country programmes, and ensure harmonization and complementarity of the tasks performed by the technical support staff.

17. It is unrealistic, at present, to assess the implications of the new support cost arrangements for the implementation of the technical cooperation programme in statistics. Although the new arrangements became effective at the beginning of 1992, the majority of projects executed by the Statistical Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the United Nations Secretariat started before 1992 and continue to be subject to the old regime. UNFPA has provided to the Statistical Division, under the TSS arrangement, six population specialist posts: (i) specialist in population census; (ii) specialist in civil registration and vital statistics; (iii) specialist in sampling; (iv) specialist in population statistics and data-processing hardware; (v) specialist in population databases and dissemination; and (vi) specialist in household surveys. A decrease is expected in the number of country projects entirely executed by the Statistical Division. However, given the Statistical Division's technical capabilities, it is considered likely that many developing countries will continue to seek technical advisory services from that Division. The form in which those services will be supplied will necessarily be within the framework of the new arrangements. The working relationship between UNFPA and the Statistical Division has entered a new phase with the establisment of the UNFPA Technical Support Teams. Under the TSS scheme, UNFPA will continue to request the Statistical Division to provide technical advice and support to UNFPA headquarters divisions and country offices and to provide needed support to the teams, with an increasing emphasis over time on supporting the activities carried out by the teams. UNFPA will continue to support the population statistical specialists in the Statistical Division and the intercountry projects that the Division is undertaking to complement its regular work programme in the field of population statistics.

18. The regional commissions and the major United Nations specialized agencies active in technical cooperation were invited to give their preliminary assessment of the impact of the new arrangements on their technical cooperation activities in statistics. The following are the available summaries of their preliminary assessments. It should be stressed that in view of the recency of the establishment of these arrangements some agencies wish to postpone making any assessment until they gain further experience.

Economic Commission for Africa

19. As part of the new arrangements, UNFPA expects to set up multi-disciplinary technical support teams in Addis Ababa, Dakar and Harare. Thus, a number of UNFPA-funded regional advisers at the Statistics Division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will be outposted to centres outside Addis Ababa.

20. Further, costs of advisory missions are to be charged to the respective country project budgets. In this connection, travel funds under the regional project for provision of advisory support to countries have been considerably reduced for the current year even though ECA, like the other regional commissions, is to join the new arrangements in 1993.

21. Until the new arrangements become fully established and well understood by all concerned, regional advisory support to ECA member States may be considerably curtailed.

22. With regard to UNDP, the emphasis is on promoting national execution of country projects. Hence, limited resources will be available for regional projects during the fifth programming cycle (1992-1996). At present, UNDP has financed a bridging project under the Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA) for the period January to the end of September 1992, and there is no clear indication about the continuation of activities under the project or its successor for the fifth programming cycle. Therefore, there is uncertainty about the financing of activities under the regional component of SDPA during the next five years.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

23. The regional advisory service on population matters was established at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 1969 with funding from UNFPA. During the 1988-1991 funding cycle of UNFPA, regional advisory services were available in: (a) population censuses and surveys; (b) data preparation and processing; (c) population and development; (d) population policies; and (e) population statistics. For 1992, UNFPA has allocated salary funds for technical advisers to the first four areas, while the post on population statistics is currently vacant. Recently UNFPA also decided to add a post on family planning/maternal and child health/management information systems to the team of advisers.

24. The regional advisory team has established itself as a principal means of enhancing national capabilities in a number of population-related areas. The advisory services have remained in great demand throughout the 1980s and a very high level of country requests has continued in the 1990s.

25. The thrust of the advisory service, which has frequently been commended by ESCAP, has been to respond to the requests of the Governments in the Asia and Pacific region for guidance and support in various population-related areas. The services have thus been demand-driven by the Governments themselves. They have been provided irrespective of the presence of UNFPA country programmes, although a very high proportion of missions involved assistance to such programmes. In instances where UNFPA country projects did not exist, the missions frequently led to their formulation.

26. During 1992, based on the understanding that the United Nations would join the TSS arrangements in 1993, ESCAP had hoped to continue to provide technical assistance through advisory services in 1992 in the same manner as in the past. The secretariat therefore continued to entertain requests from Governments for advisory assistance, many of which were follow-ups to earlier missions to support ongoing country activities. However, beginning in 1992 some elements have been introduced which are undermining the effectiveness of the advisory services as compared to previous years. One immediate effect has been the loss of flexibility in scheduling advisory missions due to drastic

cuts in the funding for the travel of the regional advisers: from US$ 118,000 in 1991 to US$ 20,000 in 1992, to be shared by five advisory posts. Over the past few years the generous funding of UNFPA to the intercountry project on regional advisory services enabled ESCAP to meet government requests for technical assistance in a very effective manner. The requests could be prioritized and missions scheduled according to the nature of assistance required, the desired timing and the level of development of the requesting country. The limitation on travel funds for 1992, however, has made it almost impossible to programme realistic schedules of missions for the advisers.

27. Instead of providing the needed travel funds directly to ESCAP, a new system has been devised by UNFPA whereby the mission costs of the advisers will be charged to the respective country projects. This new system, which was not to have been introduced until 1993 as far as the United Nations is concerned, has already encountered some problems due, inter alia, to the lack of information in countries and UNFPA field offices alike on the newly introduced procedures. It appears that such funds will generally not be available to ESCAP, as indeed was envisaged by the Governing Council decision. The new system makes it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the regional advisers to meet requests on population matters from member countries which do not have an UNFPA project.

28. After 1992 once they join the team, the advisers, although contractually with ESCAP, will be working under the respective team leaders appointed by UNFPA. Although UNFPA has stated that technical assistance will be provided to developing countries at the request of Governments, actual mission schedules of the advisers are to be determined by their team leaders according to plans drawn up for each country by the UNFPA country director concerned. Thus the previous characteristic of the ESCAP regional advisory service, of being demand-driven at the request of Governments, will be radically altered.

29. A further matter apparently of concern to countries relates to the subregional pattern on which the "regional" advisory services will be delivered. Whereas ESCAP advisers currently cover the entire Asia and Pacific region, the forthcoming TSS arrangements will create three teams: one for the Pacific based at Suva, a second for South Asia based at Kathmandu and a third for South-East Asia based at Bangkok. However the advisers are distributed among these subregions, there will presumably be very significant gaps in the statistical expertise available to many of the developing countries of the region since the skills in the various disciplines represented in the current ESCAP team are by no means interchangeable.

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

30. The new technical support services scheme implemented by UNFPA had serious implications for the regional advisory services at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in 1992, and will probably affect the quality of advisory services rendered to countries of the region both by the UNFPA team and by ESCWA itself.

31. ESCWA had two UNFPA-funded posts for regional advisers, one on population statistics attached to the Statistics Division and the other on demography placed in the Population and Social Development Division. Unlike other regional commissions and United Nations agencies, which continued their UNFPA-funded advisory services in 1992 as in the past, ESCWA had seen its regional advisers' budget cut to only six-month periods. Furthermore, the job description of the previous post of the regional adviser in statistics did not fit the requirements established by UNFPA for the similar newly created post in the regional team. This situation caused the regional adviser in population statistics to leave the Statistics Division in March 1992, creating a gap in service to the region on population-related matters.

32. The new arrangements will probably affect the quality of involvement of the Statistics Division in the statistical development of the region. Since the regional adviser was effectively operating within the Statistics Division, his activity was considered a basic element of the overall statistical production that, aimed at developing the statistical systems in the region in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.

33. Unfortunately, the advisory team to be created under the new UNFPA arrangements will be deprived of the possibilities offered by the multi-disciplinary environment of an ESCWA advisory team. It will also be deprived of the potential accumulated over the years from ESCWA involvement and interaction with national institutions and various United Nations organizations and agencies, and from joint activities with Arab regional organizations.

World Health Organization

34. The technical cooperation programme in statistics of the World Health Organization (WHO) has not been affected by General Assembly resolution 44/211 for the following reasons: (a) external funding support for country projects in statistics and health information has been minimal; (b) for years WHO has administered its regular budget country programmes according to a country-centred, nationally executed programme approach; (c) for the time being the support costs arrangement for UNDP projects executed by WHO has not been changed.

II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

35. Data relating to the technical cooperation programmes of the United Nations system, the European Community and the International Statistical Institute are submitted by the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the statistical services of the regional commissions, FAO, ILO, UNESCO, the Universal Postal Union (UPU), and WHO. The expenditure data of United Nations Headquarters include some components attributable to demographic analysis and projections, and the data should be viewed in that

context. In addition, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank submitted written statements but no data.

36. The tables in the annex show data on expenditure for the years 1989-1992. Data for 1992 are estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year. Tables A.1 and A.2 provide information on expenditure by organization and major component; tables A.3 to A.5, expenditure by region and subject area.

A. United Nations

37. The United Nations technical cooperation programme in statistics refers to the programme of DESD and the regional commissions of the United Nations. The Department was formally established by the Secretary-General effective 1 March 1992. Since it incorporates, inter alia, the mandates and functions of the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, for statistical purposes reference is made to DESD for the whole period covered by the present report. It should also be noted that, following the restructuring of the Secretariat, the operational and substantive support activities for technical cooperation in statistics became integrated in the Statistical Division of DESD.

38. The main objective of technical cooperation is to assist developing countries to strengthen and extend national services and capabilities for collecting, processing, disseminating and using a broad range of development-related statistics. Assistance is provided in a wide range of projects: building up national statistical systems, conducting population and housing censuses, promoting statistical data processing, and improving both economic and social statistics. During the period under review, emphasis continued to be given to ensuring that developing countries have full access to appropriate new techniques for processing and disseminating statistics, to the problems of those developing countries that are the least advanced in statistics, to work carried out under the umbrella of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) and to improving the situation of women (see documents E/CN.3/1993/12, 18 and 19). United Nations expenditure on technical cooperation programmes for the formulation and execution of country, regional and interregional projects declined steadily, from a slight 1 per cent between 1989 and 1990 to 6.8 per cent between 1990 and 1991. Expenditures by component for the United Nations system are given in table A.1, and for DESD and the regional commissions in table A.2.

Personnel

39. Personnel refers to Headquarters and field staff. Headquarters staff includes the personnel based at United Nations Headquarters and at the headquarters of the regional commissions. At United Nations Headquarters there are two interregional advisers: one in statistical training and demographic statistics and one in computer methods and informatics. During

the period under review 17 technical advisers provided full-time support for technical cooperation activities related to the formulation and execution of country, regional and interregional projects. An additional technical adviser in statistics on women in development was financed by the Government of Norway under a trust fund. During the biennium 1989-1990 two associate experts, one in demographic statistics and one in gender statistics, were financed by the Government of Italy under trust funds. In addition, a project coordinator and three other experts were attached to a project concerned with the development and distribution of software packages for processing and analysis of population statistics data. In the regional commissions, there were 26 regional advisers in statistics and statistical data processing: 15 at ECA, 7 at ESCAP, 3 at ESCWA and 1 at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). In addition to the technical advisers regular staff members of the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the statistics divisions of the regional commissions provided overall substantive direction to technical cooperation activities in statistics and carried out specific technical cooperation missions and functions.

40. In addition to the Headquarters personnel there are field staff comprising all staff employed at the country level whose duties are directly related to the execution of, and whose remuneration is charged to, country projects. For 1991, the total cost of personnel and field staff was $16.4 million, of which $11.2 million related to field staff (see table A.2).

Training

41. Training is an essential component of technical cooperation activities of the United Nations. This category covers fellowships, on-the-job training, study tours, workshops and seminars and local training provided by field staff, technical advisers and regular staff of the United Nations. Indeed, most country projects provide support for an explicit training component. Tables A.1 and A.2 include data on expenditures for training of the various organizations of the United Nations system. In interpreting the data it should be noted that all resident experts and most short-term consultants are providing training to counterpart staff during their assignment. Consequently the expenditure reported under personnel and field staff includes some training costs.

42. In addition to the training activities in country projects, there are other training programmes in regional, interregional or global projects financed by the regular budget of DESD.

43. Under the rouble component of the regular budget that was in effect during the period under review, DESD continued the training programme conducted in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on economic statistics and the collection and processing of statistical data. Two sessions were given each year, with approximately 15 fellows from statistically less developed countries attending each session.

44. During 1990 and 1991 the following workshops, funded by the regular budget of DESD, were convened:

(a) Workshop on Economic Statistics in Population and Housing Censuses, held in Moscow in November 1990 in collaboration with ILO, 43 participants from 17 countries attended;

(b) Workshop on Petroleum Statistics, held in Sochi, Russian Federation, in October 1991 in cooperation with ESCAP and ESCWA; 27 participants from 15 countries attended;

(c) Interregional Workshop on Disability Statistics, held in Bangkok, in September 1991 in cooperation with UNESCO and ESCAP; 20 participants from 15 countries attended;

(d) Interregional Workshop on Development of Statistics on Women's Activities in the Informal Sector held in Seoul from 25 to 29 May 1992 in collaboration with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Government of the Republic of Korea;

(e) The following regional training sessions on the revision of the System of National Accounts (SNA) were held in cooperation with the regional commissions: (i) ECA - July 1990 with 34 participants from 21 countries; (ii) ESCAP - one session from 29 August to 7 September 1990 with 54 participants from 22 countries and another at Suva (Fiji) with 15 participants from 7 countries; (iii) ECLAC - 18-28 September 1990 with 66 participants from 26 countries.

45. The Statistical Division collaborated with INSTRAW and ECA to organize two regional and four national workshops on compiling statistics for women in the informal sector. One of the regional workshops was held in July 1990, in Zambia, for English-speaking African countries, and the other was held in October 1990, for French-speaking African countries. The national workshops were held in the Gambia and Zambia in May 1991 and in Burkina Faso and the Congo in August 1991. The workshops were funded by UNDP.

46. UNFPA funded the following workshops:

(a) Second Interregional Workshop on Population Databases and Related Topics, held in Indonesia in January 1991 in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia;

(b) Workshop on Advanced Techniques of Census Cartography, organized in cooperation with Statistics Canada (Ottawa, October 1991);

(c) Workshop on Advanced Data-processing Techniques in support of census-taking for African countries, organized in cooperation with Statistics Canada (Ottawa, September/November 1991);

(d) Latin American Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, held in Buenos Aires in December 1991 in collaboration with the Government of Argentina;

(e) Third Interregional Workshop on Population Databases and Related Topics, held in Zimbabwe in December 1991 in collaboration with the Government of Zimbabwe.

Equipment

47. Equipment provided under the United Nations technical cooperation programmes in statistics included computer hardware and software, vehicles, cartographic and printing equipment and general office equipment. From 1990 to 1992 the percentage of expenditure allocated to equipment decreased steadily. In 1989 the expenditure for equipment accounted for 36 per cent of the total expenditure; in 1990, it accounted for 28 per cent; and in 1991 it declined further to 22 per cent. This decline contrasted sharply with the period 1987-1989, which was characterized by the acquisition of computer equipment in connection with the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme.

Expenditure by region

48. A regional breakdown of expenditures by United Nations Headquarters in New York and the regional commissions is given in table A.3. The data show that Africa continues to be the major recipient of technical cooperation within the United Nations, with 50 per cent of the total budget for 1990 and and 55 per cent for 1991. Expenditure in Asia dropped from a high of 34 per cent of the total budget in 1989 to 15 per cent in 1991; in the Americas, it decreased from 8 per cent in 1989 to 6 per cent in 1991; and in the Middle East and Europe, it was down slightly, from 25 per cent in 1989 to 24 per cent in 1991.

Expenditure by subject area

49. Technical cooperation projects executed by DESD covered various categories of statistics. The data on the total expenditure and expenditure within the different areas of statistics for the years 1989-1992 are shown in table A.5. During this period, in part as a consequence of country efforts to implement the 1990 round of the World Population and Housing Census Programme, demographic statistics accounted for 62.6 per cent of DESD total expenditure in 1989 and 73.9 per cent in 1990. This category included not only population censuses but also household and other surveys, sampling and statistics on women. National accounts and other economic statistics accounted for 9.6 per cent of expenditure in 1990 and 12.3 per cent in 1991. Projects in data processing and informatics not related to population censuses accounted for 11.5 per cent in 1990 and 14.7 per cent in 1991.

1. Economic Commission for Africa

50. ECA activities in statistics during the period 1989-1992 were concentrated in the areas of population censuses, demographic surveys, migration statistics, civil registration and vital statistics, statistical training, household surveys, national accounts and statistical database development. Technical cooperation expenditure in those fields was US$ 1.8 million in 1989, US$ 2.1 million in 1990 and US$ 2.4 million in 1991. The approved budget for 1992 is US$ 1.6 million.

51. ECA provided assistance in the field of demographic statistics, mainly under the following projects: Regional Advisory Services in Demographic Statistics (RASDS), Assistance à l'UDEAC en matière de population (UDEAC/DEP) and Census Training Programme in Sub-Saharan Africa. The RASDS and UDEAC/DEP projects, which were funded by UNFPA and executed by ECA, were terminated at the end of 1991. The activities, including staff of the two projects, have been incorporated since January 1992 in two UNFPA-funded technical support services activities (TSS/92/PA1 and TSS/92/PA2). The Census Training Programme was funded by the Government of Canada under multi-bilateral arrangements with UNFPA and executed by DESD with ECA as associate executing agency. The first phase of the programme ended in December 1991 and a second phase should be initiated in the course of 1992. During each of the three years 1989 to 1991 about 53 missions were undertaken to monitor and provide technical support for population censuses, demographic surveys, civil registration and vital statistics programmes in ECA member countries. In addition to the advisory missions, a working group meeting on migration statistics was held in Addis Ababa in November 1989.

52. A number of regional/subregional workshops and national level courses were also organized by the ECA Statistics Division during the period under consideration as part of the Census Training Programme in Sub-Saharan Africa: (a) three workshops on census cartography, one in Nairobi (May 1989) for English-speaking countries of Eastern and Southern Africa; one in Lomé, (July 1990) for French- and Portuguese-speaking countries of West Africa; and one in Ile-Ife, Nigeria (November 1991) mainly for English-speaking countries of West Africa; (b) two workshops on the coverage of economic activity topics in population censuses, one in Addis Ababa (December 1989) for English-speaking African countries and one in Cotonou, Benin (December 1991) for French-speaking African countries. At the national level, training courses in census organization were conducted in Botswana, Cape Verde, Mozambique and Rwanda; and data-processing courses were conducted in Benin, Botswana, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Togo, Uganda and Zambia. A course on census evaluation and quality control procedures was also organized in the Gambia.

53. In the field of statistical training six advisory missions were undertaken and seven missions were undertaken to teach at in-service training programmes as well as at centres under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and those offering middle-level training. In addition, two

subregional seminars were organized, in 1990 in French and in 1991 in English for trainers involved in middle-level statistical training/in-service training at the national level. Consultants were provided to some STPA centres to lecture on specific topics in applied statistics. Two biennial meetings of directors of centres participating in STPA were held at ECA headquarters - in December 1989 and December 1991.

54. As a result of the special assistance provided jointly by ECA and the European Economic Community to Portuguese-speaking African countries, a centre was established in Portugal in October 1991 for the training of professional-level statisticians from all the countries of the group.

55. In the field of household surveys, 27 advisory missions were undertaken, in order to formulate new project proposals or provide technical back-stopping and monitoring of ongoing projects. Five countries benefited from the formulation of new project proposals: Benin, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger and Rwanda. Fifteen other countries or areas benefited from methodological assistance: Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Seychelles, the United Republic of Tanzania (including Zanzibar) and Zambia. A working group on household surveys, held in Addis Ababa in October 1989, brought together 22 experts from 21 countries.

56. In the field of national accounts and basic economic statistics, 23 missions were undertaken during which various African countries were provided with technical assistance in the development of national capability through in-service training of local staff, the preparation of economic accounts with the active participation of the staff, and the processing of national accounts using microcomputers. An intergovernmental seminar on the review of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) was held in Addis Ababa in July 1990.

2. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

57. ESCAP continued to provide technical assistance to member countries in various areas of statistics (see table A.5). The total expenditure in 1991 and the estimated total for 1992 were lower than originally anticipated due to reductions in extrabudgetary funding allocations, particularly from UNDP and UNFPA. Thus, extrabudgetary resources devoted to technical cooperation in the area of demographic statistics, including household surveys, are likely to decline to US$ 296,000 in 1992, as compared to US$ 447,000 in 1991. Similarly, resources utilized for economic statistics also declined after 1990. However, there have been some improvements in the availability of funds for such other sectors as environment statistics.

58. During the period under review, various advanced courses, seminars and workshops were organized in collaboration with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP). A workshop on population-related software was held in Bangkok in 1991 in collaboration with DESD.

59. ESCAP, in collaboration with SIAP, organized a series of seminars on the major theme "Managing national statistical services". So far four meetings have been organized: the first in Bangkok in 1989, the second in Tokyo in 1990, the third in Singapore in 1991 and the fourth in Bangkok in 1992.

60. In addition, numerous technical meetings were organized during the period under review. Three meetings in the area of demographic statistics were organized: on computer-assisted coding in Christchurch, New Zealand in 1989; on economic classifications for population censuses in Bangkok in 1990; and on the use of multiround surveys for estimating vital statistics in Bangkok in 1991.

61. In the area of economic statistics, ESCAP organized a workshop on transport statistics in Moscow in 1989; two seminars on the revision of national accounts in 1990: one in Bangkok for the Asian countries and the other in Suva, Fiji, for the Pacific countries; and a seminar on the use of purchasing power parities in Niigata, Japan in 1990.

62. Technical meetings organized by ESCAP in other areas included an ESCAP/ILO seminar on employment and unemployment statistics, held in Bangkok in 1989; a seminar on design and evaluation of household surveys, held in Beijing in 1990; and two meetings on the development of statistical estimating procedures and techniques, held in Bangkok in 1991 and 1992.

63. Regional advisory services provided to countries in the region constituted the major thrust of technical cooperation of the statistics programme of ESCAP. Advisory services were available throughout the reporting period in the areas of national accounts, population censuses and surveys and data processing of population censuses and surveys; they were available until July 1991 in the area of general population statistics and until the end of 1991 in energy statistics. The services of an ILO regional adviser in labour statistics and surveys were available from September 1989 to March 1991. The activities planned in the area of government computerization suffered a great deal owing to the lack of resources in that area, and only a limited number of advisory missions were undertaken during the period 1989-1990.

64. Technical cooperation activities were also carried out by organizing study tours for statistical personnel in the region. These included study tours to the ESCAP secretariat and relevant government agencies of Thailand for statistical officers from Maldives (1989), Viet Nam (1990), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (1991), Malaysia (1991) and China (1992).

3. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

65. ESCWA continued to provide technical cooperation services to countries of the region in the areas of national accounts and economic statistics, population and social statistics and data processing.

66. Three regional advisers were on board during the reporting period 1989-1992; two of them are financed from the regular budget and the third, the adviser in population statistics, occupied an UNFPA post until the end of March 1992.

4. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

67. The technical cooperation programme in statistics of ECLAC for the countries of the region declined steadily from 1989 to 1991, but is expected to increase in 1992 (see table A.5).

68. Technical cooperation activities in Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic were concluded in 1989. The nature of these activities was reported to the Statistical Commission at its previous session. Likewise, activities relating to the projects "Statistics for the development of Latin America and the Caribbean", "Critical poverty" and "Change of the base year of national accounts in Venezuela", ended in 1990. The project "Support to preparatory activities related to the design, preparation and implementation of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses in Latin America and the Caribbean", as well as technical cooperation activities on the improvement of national accounts in Paraguay, were concluded in 1991.

69. In 1991 and 1992, activities were concentrated in the projects "Development and application of sampling frames and sample designs for integrated household survey programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean" and "Indicators for social policy formulation in Latin America and the Caribbean". With reference to the former, three seminars were held analysing the work undertaken and providing guidelines for future work based on the results of the 1990 round of censuses. These seminars were held according to geographical area and volume of population: the first, in Kingston, Jamaica was attended by representatives of 14 English-speaking countries of the Caribbean; the second, in Caracas, Venezuela was attended by representatives of 9 Spanish-speaking countries with a population greater than 10 million; the third, in San José, Costa Rica was attended by representatives of 11 Spanish-speaking countries with a population of less than 10 million.

70. The project "Indicators for social policy formulation in Latin America and the Caribbean" is under way. Its immediate objective is to develop analytical tools and indicators to measure prevailing social conditions and identify the most negatively affected population group. Its long-term objective is to facilitate the formulation of social policies and the productive transformation of countries. The countries selected for inclusion in the project are Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Uruguay and Venezuela. This project will be financed from contributions of US$ 350,000 from the Government of the Netherlands and US$ 305,000 in kind from ECLAC.

B. Specialized agencies

1. International Labour Organisation

71. ILO continued to provide technical cooperation services in statistics to developing countries during the period 1989-1992. Technical cooperation in labour statistics financed by the ILO regular budget covers mainly short-term advisory services. These advisory services are provided by experts operating within the framework of the inter-agency National Household Survey Capability Programme. Such services enable countries to develop or strengthen their ability to undertake household surveys on a continuing basis and to utilize the results in designing a broad range of economic and social policies.

72. The geographical distribution of expenditure in 1989 was as follows: 52 per cent went to Africa, 15 per cent to Asia, 23 per cent to the Middle East and 11 per cent to the Latin American countries. In 1990 the distribution registered changes providing 35 per cent to Africa, 12 per cent to Asia, 11 per cent each to the Middle East and Latin American countries. In 1991, the distribution was as follows: 42 per cent to Africa, 15 per cent to Asia and 13 per cent to the Middle East.

2. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

73. FAO continued to provide technical cooperation in food and agriculture, forestry and fisheries statistics. FAO expenditure on technical cooperation in statistics during the period under review is shown in table A.4. A number of field experts and specialists in various areas were assigned to country projects in 1992 at a cost of US$ 6.6 million. In 1992, expenditure on food and agriculture statistics was US$ 8.5 million, on forestry statistics US$ 2.4 million, and on fisheries statistics US$ 0.9 million. A breakdown by region shows that expenditure on projects in the African region was US$ 7.8 million, the largest in 1992, followed by US$ 2.3 million in the Asia and Pacific region, US$ 0.67 million in Latin America and the Caribbean, and US$ 0.4 million in Western Asia.

74. During the period under review, emphasis continued to be placed on assisting countries in their timely preparation for organizing the 1990 round of national agricultural censuses. Because of the unfavourable food situation in 1992, emphasis was given to improving the data collection and analysis of a range of data relating to food security. In the area of forestry statistics, a Tropical Forest Resources Assessment was undertaken in 1990. Activities in fisheries statistics, increased in 1989-1991 mainly because countries, particularly in Africa, were determined to improve their fishery planning in a fact-based manner. Emphasis was also placed on training activities, and training seminars on agricultural census techniques and forestry statistics were organized in Africa and the Asia and Pacific region.

3. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

75. UNESCO continued to provide technical cooperation services in statistics to member countries to assist them in the areas of education, science and technology, and culture and communication. Such cooperation included the implementation of extrabudgetary projects and the execution of regular programme activities in the form of consultancies and training. Expenditure on technical cooperation in statistics by UNESCO is shown in table A.4.

76. Training continued to play a significant role in the activities of UNESCO. In 1989, 81 per cent of the total budget for technical cooperation activities was expended on training. However, by 1991 the training component had declined to a low of 37 per cent. Two field experts were used for 13.6 work-months in 1990 and 27 work-months in 1992. Expenditure on equipment increased significantly, from 14 per cent in 1989 to 42 per cent in 1991.

77. The African region received substantial assistance in 1989, claiming 87 per cent of the total budget. This declined to 30 per cent in 1990, but rose to 33 per cent in 1992. In the Asian region, support increased from a mere US$ 8,000 in 1989 to US$ 159,000 in 1990, US$ 466,000 in 1991 and US$ 572,000 in 1992. Other regions receiving UNESCO assistance were Latin America and the Caribbean and the Arab region. Variations in the distribution of expenditure by component and by region are due mainly to the recent development of two extrabudgetary projects, one in Asia and another aimed at several African countries.

4. International Civil Aviation Organization

78. During the period 1989-1992, member countries continued to rely on air transport economists, located at ICAO regional offices, for advice on aviation statistics matters. Some UNDP-financed country or regional projects included provision for technical guidance in the field of aviation statistics, but it is not possible to identify the actual costs or work hours as the projects were broad and involved statistics as only one element. Similarly, courses at some aviation training centres included statistics as one of the elements of broader air transport economics courses.

79. ICAO continued the programme of regional workshops on aviation statistics. Four such workshops were conducted during the period 1989-1992 for member countries in Africa and Latin America. The workshops were generally of one week's duration and were intended to provide an informal forum for discussing statistical problems and exchanging information and experiences.

80. Technical guidance to providers and users of ICAO civil aviation statistics is given in the Manual on the ICAO Statistics Programme, which was last revised in 1984. A new edition of the Manual has been prepared incorporating changes introduced by the ICAO Council on the recommendation of a representative group of member countries. The new edition is expected to be

issued before the end of 1992. Guidance to providers is also available through detailed explanations included in the ICAO air transport reporting forms.

81. A number of new initiatives were planned by ICAO on the basis of results of a major survey conducted to ascertain statistical collection and reporting difficulties of member countries. The information obtained from this survey was used by the ICAO Technical Cooperation Bureau for the purpose of (a) developing or expanding courses in civil aviation statistics at existing ICAO-sponsored training centres; and (b) establishing a pilot project to equip one or more developing member countries with basic microcomputer hardware and software in order to strengthen their statistical capabilities. Unfortunately, little progress can be reported owing to the financial difficulties of the organization as a whole, in particular its technical cooperation programme.

5. World Health Organization

82. In 1991, the Division of Epidemiological Surveillance and Health Situation and Trend Assessment (HST) of WHO coordinated the global review (second evaluation) of the implementation of the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 and issued the eighth report on the world health situation, which contains information for 151 countries.

83. Technical support was provided by HST for (a) the finalization of the development of health management information systems in India and Nepal; (b) the assessment and revision of the disease surveillance reporting system in Guinea-Bissau; (c) the improvements in township level monitoring and evaluation in Myanmar; (d) the rapid evaluation of maternal and child health and family planning programmes in Madagascar, Papua New Guinea and Uganda; and (e) the monitoring and evaluation of a schistosomiasis control programme on the island of Pemba, United Republic of Tanzania.

84. Staff of HST participated in a workshop on the strengthening of a health information system. This was organized by the WHO Regional Office for Africa for nationals of six member countries in Central Africa in 1990. HST staff also participated in workshops on biomedical research methodology in China in July 1990 and on research design and methodology in Fiji in May 1991.

85. HST collaborated in the preparation and implementation of modules on information for the Leadership Development Programme organized by the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. With participation of nationals from all the regions, training materials were developed for courses in France and Belgium on the use of epidemiology.

86. Staff of HST participated in the Global Task Force on Cholera and assisted in joint missions to Latin America to assess the epidemiological situations and review the programmes for prevention and control. A field visit was also undertaken to Brazil to learn about district health information

systems based on geographical information systems and to evaluate their feasibility for use in other countries.

87. Sample Size Determination in Health Studies: A Practical Manual was published and is available in English, French and Spanish. A user-friendly microcomputer package based on this publication is being developed. The Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) will be published in 1992 in English and French. Assistance was provided to countries in the preparation of ICD-10 in 17 other languages (Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Latvian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish and Thai).

88. Since its inception in mid-1987, the Surveillance, Forecasting, and Impact Assessment (SFI) unit of the Global Programme on AIDS (GPA) has been developing and evaluating methods for the surveillance, forecasting and impact (primarily demographic and economic) assessment of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Global databases on reported AIDS cases and HIV serological studies/surveys (primarily in developing countries) have been established. Sentinel systems for HIV surveillance have been developed and are being established in many countries. Estimation and projection methods for HIV/AIDS have been developed and are being prepared for use by national AIDS programmes. A comprehensive computerized data collection, analysis and reporting system, including HIV/AIDS specific software programmes, was completed for initial distribution to national AIDS programmes in mid-1991. A major activity of the SFI unit in the years to come is to train trainers for the systems that have been developed.

89. Between 1989 and 1991 the Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP) awarded 34 research training grants in the areas of epidemiology, biostatistics and data processing to candidates from 15 developing countries. Five research training grantees returning from training abroad spent eight weeks with the Statistics and Data Processing Unit of HRP to acquire practical training in the design management of statistical analysis of clinical trials. Nine training courses in basic statistics and the use of computers for the management and statistical analysis of clinical trials and epidemiological studies were conducted in institutions in China (three), Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Seven training workshops were held to teach the use of prototype data-processing systems developed for specific research projects, three in Geneva for collaborating scientists from six developing countries, and the others in Cairo, Guatemala and Shanghai.

90. Four workshops, which included aspects of statistics and computing, were scheduled under the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). Two workshops were held on the use of microcomputers in tropical epidemiology, the first in Ndola, Zambia from 10 to 21 September 1990, with financial support from the International Development Research Centre of Canada and the second in Kaduna, Nigeria, from 6 to 15 April 1992, co-funded by the Nigerian Ministry of Health. The third, the

National Workshop on Tropical Diseases Field Research was held in Shanghai from 29 October to 8 November 1990. The fourth workshop, on data management and statistics for anthropologists and epidemiologists, is scheduled for 1992, its probable location India. A publication, Methods for Field Trials of Interventions Against Tropical Diseases - A Toolbox, was issued in 1992.

6. World Bank

91. At previous sessions of the Statistical Commission, the World Bank has reported on technical cooperation activities covering both general statistical fields and the specialized area of external debt statistics. During the period under review, the Bank continued to provide support to member countries through funding of statistical projects and technical missions. The Bank's accounting systems and operational procedures do not permit compilation of dollar value estimates of the assistance provided.

92. Over the past two years the Bank has focused its programmes on three main fronts. While continuing to provide assistance in the more traditional areas, it has stepped up its efforts in the area of data on poverty, a major area of Bank concerns. Through the Social Dimensions of Adjustment (SDA) programme, assistance has been provided to member countries in building analytical and data collection capacities at the country level. Funding for these programmes has been largely from bilateral and multilateral donor sources coupled with loans and credits from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA).

93. Thirty-three countries have requested assistance from the SDA programme. Of these, 20 have been appraised and the budgets of the survey components add up to US$ 58 million. Currently a funding of US$ 51 million is secured - a little more than half by grants and the rest mainly through IDA credits. Areas covered by these projects are short- and long-term technical assistance, training, workshops and seminars, as well as equipment and operational costs to build up the capacity for social statistics.

94. The Living Standards Management Study (LSMS) programme has been extended to more countries. The countries now covered are Bolivia, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan and Viet Nam. The SDA and LSMS surveys are a principal means of gathering data on poverty, the reduction of which is the overriding objective of Bank operations. The typical SDA and LSMS initiatives build on current statistical programmes and capacity in member countries. The Bank facilitates the necessary provision of inputs to ensure an increased capacity. This will allow countries to collect, analyse and utilize multisectoral information for analysis. The approach is built on addressing the demand for data simultaneously with its collection and analysis.

95. The second area of focus has been in general statistical capacity-building driven by the demand for data. While the primary concentration has been in the context of Africa, the Bank has in all instances advocated a systematic approach based on need assessments, prioritization of statistical programmes and ensuring sustainability.

96. The special circumstances prevailing in countries in transition as they move towards becoming market economies have led the Bank towards assisting these countries in estimating macroeconomic accounts that are comparable in scope.

97. About a dozen country missions per year are mounted to member countries to address operationally significant statistical issues which lead to detailed desk reviews of information collected by other Bank missions. In addition a long-distance dialogue with national authorities about solutions, for perhaps another dozen per year will also be undertaken. Additionally, in a limited number of countries the Bank has assisted in developing approaches that permit the integration of International Comparison Project (ICP) work into the regular work on prices and national accounts. These test cases are designed to ensure the practicality of the Bank's approach to using quinquennial ICP exercises to improve the accuracy and analytical usefulness of national accounts, consumer price indices and so on, without an undue increase in the cost to the overall statistical system. The Bank is also developing computer software systems that will streamline the process further, with a joint venture with the Statistical Office of the European Commodities (EUROSTAT) currently under consideration.

98. In the area of external debt statistics the Bank's main activities have included (a) the development of a UNDP-funded joint UNCTAD/World Bank technical assistance programme on managing external debt in developing countries; and (b) a concentrated programme of assistance to establish viable debt management systems in the Republics that constitute the Commonwealth of Independent States and in new member countries. The joint UNCTAD/World Bank programme, for which initial funding of US$ 550,000 was recently approved by UNDP, will focus on building, in stages, a long-term country capability for effective asset and liability management. The first phase of this project includes (a) designing enhanced computer-based external debt management software in coordination with UNCTAD; (b) establishing a Debt Management Advisory Group to direct the overall programme; (c) assessing the financial technical assistance needs of two representative developing countries; and (d) preparing standard debt management handbooks and training manuals. In the second phase of this project a comprehensive programme of externally financed technical assistance will be implemented. The UNDP contribution to UNCTAD and the World Bank combined is expected to be of the order of US$ 10 million over a five-year period.

99. Over the next two years the present approaches to the delivery of technical assistance will be continued. Although the Bank's activities are global, the new member countries in Europe and Central Asia and countries in sub-Saharan Africa will receive particular attention, given their special circumstances. Capacity-building geared to generation of policy relevant data will continue to be the main driving force behind the Bank's activities in the statistical area. The Bank will to the maximum extent possible coordinate its activities at the country level with other bilateral and multilateral donor agencies.

7. International Monetary Fund

100. The provision of technical assistance in statistics constitutes a major part of the work of the Statistics Department of IMF. The Fund makes such assistance available through missions to member countries, training courses in statistics at the IMF Institute and in the field, and visits to Fund headquarters by national technicians. In 1990 the Statistics Department of the Fund started a new programme of technical assistance through the assignment of experts, at the request of member countries, for the development of statistical infrastructure in its areas of work.

101. The primary objective of the technical cooperation programme is to assist member countries in developing national statistical capabilities and in improving the currentness, coverage and quality of national databases used for policy-making and analysis. Technical assistance is provided for the most part through missions undertaken in response to requests from member countries. It is concentrated in five major fields of statistics which are of particular significance to the Fund, analytically and operationally, namely, money and domestic banking, balance of payments, government finance, international banking and external debt, and general economic data. Missions may focus on specific areas or provide assistance on a multisector basis designed to address multiple problems within a consistent macroeconomic framework. During the period 1989-1991 a total of 218 missions involving technical assistance to countries were undertaken by staff of the Statistics Department.

102. In addition, training courses are regularly given by the Statistics Department in collaboration with the IMF Institute. Courses are offered in money and banking, government finance, and balance-of-payments statistics, and more than 100 technicians from many member countries receive training each year. The courses follow the statistical methodologies of the Fund contained in the fourth edition of the Balance of Payments Manual, a manual on Government Finance Statistics and the draft "Guide to money and banking statistics in international financial statistics". In addition, seminars on statistics are also given in member countries and on a regional basis. Officials from member countries are also given special on-the-job training by the Statistics Department on a selective basis in various fields of statistics.

8. Universal Postal Union

103. UPU provided technical assistance in the form of training principally for the determination of mail volume, work measurement studies and rate fixing. Work was undertaken by consultants in the appropriate methodologies for application in the postal services.

104. Expenditure by UPU in technical cooperation projects in statistics is reported in the tables in the annex.

C. European Community

105. EUROSTAT continued to provide technical cooperation in statistics to developing countries totalling $1,903,500 in 1989, $1,975,300 in 1990, $2,209,900 in 1991 and an estimated $2,956,600 in 1992. The African region received the most assistance, namely, $2,018,400 in 1991 and an estimated $2,499,800 in 1992. Regarding expenditure by subject area, multisector statistics accounted for 57 per cent of EUROSTAT total expenditure in 1991 and 62 per cent in 1992. Expenditure on demographic statistics was 16 per cent in 1991 and 15 per cent in 1992.

D. International Statistical Institute

106. One of the fundamental objectives of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) has been the improvement of statistical education and the promotion of training in the statistical sciences. The Statistical Education Programme of ISI has recently effected changes that will serve to further advance the international development of statistical education. During the forty-eighth biennial session of the Institute in September 1991, a decision was taken by vote at the General Assembly meeting to introduce a new section specifically dedicated to the promotion and development of statistical education. It is anticipated that this new section will help to amalgamate the diverse interested groups and thus provide a stronger forum for further progress. All statistical education activities previously carried out by the ISI Statistical Education Committee will now be the responsibility of the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE).

107. The International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC), located in Calcutta, continues in its commitment to provide courses in theoretical and applied statistics at various levels to a large number of students from South and Southeast Asia, the Far East and East Africa. The content and quality of the courses have been monitored by the ISI Statistical Education Committee. ISI contributes to the operating expenses incurred by ISEC using funding provided by the Government of India and UNESCO. The forty-fifth term was held from June 1991 to March 1992 with a registration of approximately 30 students. Instruction is given at various levels by members of the Indian Statistical Institute, statistical officers of the Government of India, teachers from foreign universities and lecturers provided by the United Nations and specialized agencies. ISI recently advanced the Centre US$ 4,000 towards the purchase of an advanced PC/XT and Xerox machines to be used exclusively by ISEC trainees.

108. After four years of preparations, the Third International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS 3) was held at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand in August 1990. The Conference proved to be a stimulating occasion and feedback from participants has been extraordinarily enthusiastic. During the week a total of 268 papers were presented in 38 sessions. There were also 19 workshops. Participation was larger than anticipated with a total of 564 registered participants, including 315

overseas participants from 30 different countries. The proceedings of the Conference have been issued and are available from the ISI Permanent Office. At the invitation of the Government of Morocco, ICOTS 4 will be held in Marrakesh in early August 1994.

109. Plans for future meetings include a round-table conference to be held during August 1992 at Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Canada. This conference will address the topic "Introducing data analysis in the schools: who should teach it and how". Plans are also under way for the holding of the first Asian Conference on Teaching Statistics (ACOTS) in 1993 (the venue and dates have yet to be decided).

110. In September 1991 ISI held its forty-eighth biennial session in Cairo. The session proved to be a success with over 500 participants from all over the world. In conjunction with the session, ISI sponsored short courses focusing on statistical methods for quality improvement, measurement errors in surveys and sensitivity analysis in linear regression.

111. ISI has provided assistance to the State Statistical Bureau of China in conducting fertility surveys by providing training, technical assistance, computer hardware, and software and office equipment, as well as help with research, analysis and the publication of survey results. Phase 1 of the project comprised sample surveys in two provinces and one metropolitan area, with a total population of nearly 100 million. Phase 2 included sample surveys in five provinces and one metropolitan area with an aggregated population of 250 million. A workshop on writing the principal report and interpreting and presenting sample errors was held in Beijing in May/June 1988, with 36 participants. Two workshops on the further analysis of phase 2 survey data were held: a workshop for nine participants was conducted with the East West Population Institute in Honolulu in July/August 1988 and a follow-up workshop in Guangzhou in March 1989. ISI has published the proceedings of the International Seminar of China's In-Depth Fertility Survey which took place in Beijing in February 1990. A workshop was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon in October 1989, and resulted in the publication of Analyse statistique de la fécondité. Another workshop, entitled "PAPCHILD survey data", was held in Cairo from May to June 1991. A joint undertaking by ISI, the Pan Arab Project for Child Development (PAPCHILD), and the Institute for Statistical Studies and Research of Cairo University (ISSR), the project's objective was to provide training on the analysis of data from the surveys of maternal and child health in the Arab world organized by PAPCHILD.

III. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

112. The Commission may wish to:

(a) Review the implications of the new agency support cost arrangements for the technical cooperation programme in statistics;

(b) Comment on the technical cooperation programme in statistics, including its scope and composition.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 5 (E/1991/25), para. 182 (d).

Annex

STATISTICAL TABLES

Table A.1. United Nations system expenditure by organization and component

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization and year	Total	Personnel a/	Field staff	Training b/	Equipment	Other
United Nations c/						
1989	33 160	4 886	8 926	5 490	11 873	1 985
1990	32 809	5 337	10 397	4 900	9 030	3 145
1991	30 580	5 123	11 218	4 133	6 876	3 230
1992 d/	23 635	4 706	9 794	4 219	3 215	1 701
FAO						
1989	11 170	1 680	6 740	1 020	1 050	680
1990	11 290	1 390	6 040	1 190	1 560	1 110
1991	14 800	2 100	7 480	1 890	2 180	1 150
1992 d/	11 870	1 960	6 570	980	1 440	920
ILO						
1989	693	297	396	-	-	-
1990	941	341	600	-	-	-
1991	778	341	412	25	-	-
1992 d/	831	378	453	-	-	-
UNESCO						
1989	303	-	-	247	43	13
1990	314	1	104	141	48	20
1991	623	60	143	134	264	22
1992 d/	978	198	152	363	221	44
UPU						
1989	259	-	83	90	86	-
1990	337	-	21	36	280	-
1991	92	-	16	32	44	-
1992 d/	5	-	-	5	-	-
WHO						
1989	8 274	2 229	1 854	3 726	465	-
1990	8 226	2 635	1 914	3 414	263	-
1991	9 802	2 336	1 710	4 944	812	-
1992 d/	6 511	1 951	1 495	2 934	131	-

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table)

Note: A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable or that the amount is negligible.

a/ Headquarters of the United Nations, regional commissions and specialized agencies.

b/ Data do not include training provided by the interregional, regional and technical advisers or project staff, as such expenditure is included under personnel and field staff.

c/ DESD and regional commissions.

d/ Estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year.

Table A.2. United Nations expenditure by component

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization and year	Total	Personnel a/	Field staff	Training b/	Equipment	Other
United Nations (Total)						
1989	33 160	4 886	8 926	5 490	11 873	1 985
1990	32 809	5 337	10 397	4 900	9 030	3 145
1991	30 580	5 123	11 218	4 133	6 876	3 230
1992 c/	23 635	4 706	9 794	4 219	3 215	1 701
Of which:						
DESD						
1989	29 391	2 180	8 714	4 835	11 820	1 842
1990	28 691	2 398	10 357	3 979	9 006	2 951
1991	26 760	2 100	11 200	3 635	6 859	2 966
1992 c/	20 527	2 310	9 595	3 798	3 203	1 621
ECA						
1989	1 819	1 446	4	199	50	120
1990	2 075	1 660	3	216	16	180
1991	2 356	1 876	3	200	17	260
1992 c/	1 550	1 476	-	10	5	59
ESCAP						
1989	922	614	-	308	-	-
1990	1 289	741	-	538	-	10
1991	853	638	-	215	-	-
1992 c/	913	557	-	346	-	10
ESCWA						
1989	436	379	-	57	-	-
1990	409	409	-	-	-	-
1991	408	408	-	-	-	-
1992 c/	211	211	-	-	-	-
ECLAC						
1989	592	267	208	91	3	23
1990	345	129	37	167	8	4
1991	203	101	15	83	-	4
1992 c/	434	152	199	65	7	11

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table)

Note: A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable or that the amount is negligible.

a/ Headquarters of the United Nations and regional commissions.

b/ Data do not include training provided by the interregional, regional and technical advisers or project staff, as such expenditure is included under personnel and field staff.

c/ Estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year.

Table A.3. United Nations system expenditure by organization and region

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization and region a/	1989	1990	1991	1992 b/
DESD				
Total	29 391	28 691	26 760	20 527
Africa	9 483	14 423	14 694	13 018
Asia	10 135	6 568	3 980	3 115
Middle East and Europe c/	7 483	6 234	6 511	2 814
Americas	2 290	1 466	1 575	1 580
Regional commissions				
Total	3 769	4 118	3 820	3 108
ECA	1 819	2 075	2 356	1 550
ESCAP	922	1 289	853	913
ESCWA	436	409	408	211
ECLAC	592	345	203	434
FAO				
Total d/	11 170	11 290	14 800	11 870
Africa	6 940	8 090	10 300	7 840
Asia and the Pacific	2 890	2 490	2 900	2 280
Western Asia	100	20	90	380
Latin America and the Caribbean	1 090	540	910	670
Global	150	150	600	700
ILO				
Total	693	941	778	831
Africa c/	357	327	330	365
Asia c/	99	114	114	126
Middle East	158	100	103	113
Latin America	79	100	-	-
Other	-	300	231	227

Organization and region a/	1989	1990	1991	1992 b/
UNESCO				
Total	303	314	623	978
Africa	264	95	106	325
Asia	8	159	466	573
Arab countries	5	45	14	2
Latin America and the Caribbean	18	-	26	52
Other	8	15	11	26
UPU				
Total	259	337	92	5
Africa	143	199	41	5
Asia and the Pacific	34	43	41	-
Arab countries	82	76	-	-
Latin America and the Caribbean	-	5	-	-
Europe	-	14	10	-
WHO				
Total	8 274	8 226	9 802	6 511
Africa	889	1 224	1 226	637
Western Pacific	1 126	1 734	1 160	286
South-East Asia	1 846	840	2 245	1 337
Eastern Mediterranean	1 290	725	1 099	1 127
Europe	51	681	612	313
Latin America and the Caribbean	2 605	3 022	3 460	2 811

Note: A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable or that the amount is negligible.

a/ Regional groupings may vary according to organization.

b/ Estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year.

c/ Including regional and interregional projects.

d/ Including assistance provided in the fields of forestry and fishery statistics.

Table A.4. United Nations system expenditure by organization and subject area

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization and subject area	1989	1990	1991	1992 a/
United Nations b/				
Multisector statistics	2 306	1 447	1 331	1 188
National accounts and other economic statistics	6 220	3 585	3 852	4 080
Demographic statistics c/	20 204	23 151	20 094	16 136
Data processing and informatics	3 833	3 854	4 322	1 551
Other	597	772	982	680
Total	33 160	32 809	30 581	23 635
FAO				
Multisector statistics	9 060	8 990	11 760	9 530
National accounts and other economic statistics	-	-	-	-
Demographic statistics c/	-	-	-	-
Data processing and informatics	2 110	2 300	3 040	2 340
Other	-	-	-	-
Total	11 170	11 290	14 800	11 870
ILO				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	-	-	-	-
Demographic statistics c/	-	-	-	-
Data processing and informatics	-	-	-	-
Other d/	693	941	778	831
Total	693	941	778	831
UNESCO				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	-	-	-	-
Demographic statistics c/	-	-	-	-
Data processing and informatics	-	-	-	-
Other e/	303	314	623	978
Total	303	314	623	978

Organization and subject area	1989	1990	1991	1992 a/
UPU				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	-	-	-	-
Demographic statistics c/	-	-	-	-
Data processing and informatics	124	285	58	-
Other	135	52	34	5
Total	259	337	92	5
WHO				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	-	-	-	-
Demographic statistics c/	-	105	-	65
Data processing and informatics	101	160	302	-
Other f/	8 173	7 961	9 500	6 446
Total	8 274	8 226	9 802	6 511

Note: A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable or that the amount is negligible.

a/ Estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year.

b/ DESD and regional commissions.

c/ Including population censuses, census and survey cartography, sampling and surveys, household surveys and statistics on women.

d/ Labour statistics.

e/ Educational, technological and culture-related areas.

f/ Health sector statistics relating to epidemiology, health services and health resources.

Table A.5. United Nations expenditure by subject area

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization and subject area	1989	1990	1991	1992 a/
DESD				
Multisector statistics	2 209	1 444	1 331	1 188
National accounts and other economic statistics	5 447	2 740	3 294	3 588
National accounts, finance and prices	1 127	562	391	278
External trade, transport and energy	94	329	1 002	760
Other economic statistics	4 226	1 849	1 901	2 550
Demographic statistics b/	18 391	21 205	18 192	14 500
Demographic and social statistics	4 449	3 766	4 059	2 651
Population censuses	12 831	16 929	13 514	11 420
Census and survey cartography	590	280	467	399
Sampling and surveys	521	230	152	30
Data processing and informatics	3 344	3 302	3 943	1 251
Other	-	-	-	-
Total	29 391	28 691	26 760	20 527
ECA				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	167	186	163	169
Demographic statistics b/	966	1 127	1 151	819
Data processing and informatics	176	210	229	205
Other	510	551	813	357
Total	1 819	2 074	2 356	1 550
ESCAP				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	353	473	236	293
Demographic statistics b/	426	498	447	296
Data processing and informatics	56	97	-	-
Other	87	221	169	323
Total	922	1 289	852	912

Organization and subject area	1989	1990	1991	1992 a/
ESCWA				
Multisector statistics	-	-	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	119	138	128	30
Demographic statistics b/	185	128	130	86
Data processing and informatics	132	143	150	95
Other	-	-	-	-
Total	436	409	408	211
ECLAC				
Multisector statistics	97	3	-	-
National accounts and other economic statistics	134	48	31	-
Demographic statistics b/	236	193	174	435
Data processing and informatics	125	102	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Total	592	346	205	435
United Nations total	33 160	32 809	30 581	23 635

Note: A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable or that the amount is negligible.

a/ Estimates based on the budget for 1992 at the beginning of the year.

b/ Including social statistics, population censuses, census and survey cartography, sampling and surveys, household surveys and statistics on women.